

Serial No. 10/707,157

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached drawing sheet includes changes to FIG. 8. In FIG. 8, the reference numeral 219 has been added to indicate the second end of the tubular body 212.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

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REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 13 have been amended.

To overcome the drawing objections by the examiner, reference numeral 219 has been added to FIG. 8 and the specification has been amended to delete the reference numeral 60 and to include reference numerals 119 and 141.

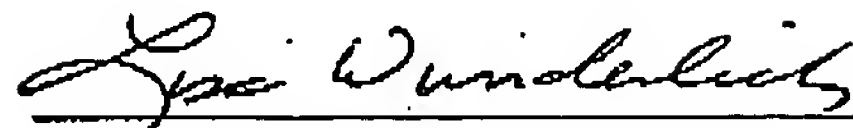
Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention because it is unclear what is actually being claimed by the limitation that one of the first and second ends of a tubular body is configured to be radially deformable to "seize against" a vehicle frame. Examiner states that claims 1-19 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the 112 rejections. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to replace the phrase "seize against" with the phrase "to secure the tubular body to." Accordingly, the rejection of the claims 1 and 13 should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-12 and 14-19 were rejected as claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b). Since claims 2-12 and 14-19 depend directly or indirectly from and contain all the limitations of claim 1 as amended, they are felt to overcome the obviousness rejection in the same manner as amended claim 1.

This amendment is believed to be fully responsive to the comments and suggestions of the Examiner and to place this application in condition for allowance. Favorable action is requested.

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Respectfully submitted,
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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

Reference 219 has been added.

